

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 25-27 were presented and examined. In response to the Office Action, Claims 1-8 and 26 are amended. Claims 12-24 were previously cancelled. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-11 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, and specifically for failing to conform to U.S. practice.

In response, Claims 1-8 and 26 are amended to rectify the deficiencies identified by the Examiner, and to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowability of all pending claims, if rewritten to overcome the §112 rejection(s) set forth above. In view of the amendments to Claims 1-8 and 26, we respectfully request allowance of pending Claims 1-11 and 25-27.

DEPENDENT CLAIMS

In view of the above remarks, a specific discussion of the dependent claims is considered to be unnecessary. Therefore, Applicant's silence regarding any dependent claim is not to be interpreted as agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejection of such claim or as waiving any argument regarding that claim.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Per 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and in connection with the Office Action mailed on October 16, 2008, Applicant respectfully petitions Commissioner for a two (2) month extension of time, extending the period for response to March 16, 2009. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 in the amount of \$490 to cover the petition filing fee.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending (1) are in proper form, (2) are neither obvious nor anticipated by the relied upon art of record, and (3) are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

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By: 
Joseph Lutz, Reg. No. 43,765

1279 Oakmead Parkway
Sunnyvale, California 94085-4040
Telephone (310) 207-3800
Facsimile (408) 720-8383

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted electronically via EFS Web on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.


Alexandra Y. Caluca
March 16, 2009